

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Human Services Committee** was held on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 in Room 200 of the Northern Building – 305 East Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin

Present: Chair Evans, Supervisor Hopp, Supervisor Haefs, Supervisor Robinson
Excused: Supervisor LaViolette
Also Present: Jeremy Kral, Tim Schmitt, Jim Hermans, Kerry Draxler, Kevin Brennan, Scott Shackelford, Mary Johnson

I. **Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Evans at 6:00 p.m.

II. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson , seconded by Supervisor Hopp to modify agenda to move item #7 after item #4, and to strike item #5 from agenda . Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. **Approve/Modify Minutes of May 22, 2013.**

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Haefs to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments from the Public None.

Report from Human Services Chair, Patrick Evans None.

1. **Review Minutes of:**

- a. Aging & Disability Resource Center of Brown County Board (May 23, 2013).
- b. Community Options Program Planning Committee (May 20, 2013)
- c. Northeast Wisconsin Family Care Board of Directors (June 5, 2013)
- d. Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee (May 21, 2013).

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to suspend rules to take 1a-d together. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to approve 1a-d. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Veterans Services:

2. **Budget Adjustment #13-50: Increase in expenses with offsetting increase in revenue.**

Motion made by Supervisor Haefs, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to approve. Vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Human Services Department

3. **Executive Director's Report.**

Interim Human Services Director Jeremy Kral presented and handed a written report to the committee (attached). Some highlighted areas not listed in the report in regards to the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program was that state put in money for a medicated card service program. Brown County Human Services will pay 40% and the federal will pay 60%. Statewide has an estimated \$16 million dollars. In regards to Family Care; the report will look at operating factors and cost projection. 57 counties have this program and 15 do not. Eventually they will expand to the 15 that do not have the long term care program, but time frame is unknown. In regards to Behavioral Health Services; the vacant job, Outpatient Clinic Manager's job description is currently being revised. They are hoping to create a better integration for clients merging "outpatient" and "inpatient" into this job title's description, to follow through patient's needs. Kral added that the funding for the 10 economic support divisions at state level is still in the budget.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Haefs to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Services Available to Youth Aging Out.**

Evans shared that he asked guests to come to the meeting specifically to talk about foster care and children turning 18 and aging out.

Jim Hermans said that they are seeing this service as a core responsibility to provide and to try to build a bridge to connect child and the community. They want the child to know their resources in the community. Hermans introduced his team, Kevin Brennan, Supervisor of Child Protection Program & Foster Parents, Scott Shackelford, Supervisor for the Juvenile Justice Program, Kerry Draxler, Supervisor at Brown County Shelter Care.

Draxler provided a PowerPoint (attached) to the committee. Draxler presented her presentation, and credited the federal funding by John H. Chafee Foster Care, which provides funds like education training vouchers for youth 15.5 – 21 years of age, all still offering funding up until their 22nd birthday. Once they hit 18-21, the program is then called "Transitional Living Services" rather than "Independent Living Services", providing same services.

Evans expressed his concerns about the 18 plus youth not receiving the services presented. Draxler addressed his concerns; services are available to those youth still, but there are barriers such as youth not wanting the services, and lost connections with programs and foster families. Brennan also stated that court order does end after 18 with the exception to 19 years (if still in

high school) of age for these youth, after that, it is relied on the youth to seek the services. Draxler shared she started an initiative group that will identify ways to sustain needs, find duplicate services to fill in gaps and create other services. Draxler then shared her list of members who want a part in this group, and her next steps are to bring foster youth and parents who have exited successfully in as well.

In addition, Draxler said support is a huge part in exiting care. She shared a story. A young woman exited foster care and was linked up to a mentor. Upon exiting foster care, she was able to find employment, but was often late. Her employer, curious to why, contacted the girl's mentor. After looking into it, the mentor found out that it was because the girl waited for her grandmother to come home from work to borrow her shoes for work. It was a simple barrier, they were able to get her shoes, and it was a success. Draxler added that the Transitional Living Program is run by Family Services.

Shackelford shared a successful story as well about a student leaving juvenile court order. The youth has committed foster parents, a job that provides 35 hours, he was enrolled in a rent program that taught individuals how to rent, received his diploma from Pulaski High, and had state money to attend NWTC. Another case he shared is about a boy who they had no court order to help, but they were still able to help voluntarily with a bus pass for him to obtain his East High School Diploma.

Evans expressed his mixed feelings again about the program; the 15.5 – 18 year old youths sound like they were receiving care, but once they hit 18 years old, are they done? Shackelford reassured that they will get help until they are 21 through their program, their shelter care with Brown County. The court order will end, and they will need to exit foster care at 18 (19 with exception).

Robinson asked if Independent Services is rented through Shelter Care. Draxler answered, they are the primary contact for them, and they document the services provided to these youth into the statewide program, and some of the services are from other agencies because they do not want to duplicate services, and some are done internally. Upon high school for the youth they enter Transitional Program, it is still through Brown County with the same services offered. To better understand, Robinson asked about the example about the young man; was the plan in place and there was a miscommunication with the parents? Brennan drew an analogy; the day-to-day functioning duties are relied on the foster homes, but if that can't be completed at the home (the program can certainly provide that), how to get a job, follow up with employer, check-book balancing. But some things that can't be done with the foster home for certain skill sets, there are community partners, or the social worker to help with that such as budgeting and FAFSA help. The case workers work with the 18-19 year olds formally or informally with preparing them for the future. They use a tool they called the "Permanency Pact." The tool lists things to go through with the youth upon leaving foster care.

Robinson asked Draxler if there was a plan to deal with the housing wait list. Draxler said at the point they're working closing with the Transitional Program with Family Services to move the youth up to that waitlist. There's minimal funding from the Chafee Fund, and it's used more so to help the youth find sustainable income. Hermans added that when they talked to Family Services, their federal funds were cut, therefore couldn't help much with housing these youths.

They are trying to help with what they can with the limited dollars they have and will continue to offer their resources. Robinson asked if they have had contact with St. Johns Homeless Shelter. Their numbers for the age group have gone up greatly this past year. Draxler answered they have talked with that shelter along with another shelter, New Community. Both reported their numbers for that age group, 18-21 have indeed gone up.

Hopp thanked Draxler for the presentation, and asked for clarification if these kids were placed in foster care system as a result of their own action or parental action and removed from their own home. Draxler confirmed that was correct. Hopp asked about the housing issue again- is it a funding issue, or not having available units to rent. Draxler said yes, funding is an issue along with a number of other issues; criminal background and credit scores. Hopp asked if it was possible the county was spending money in the wrong places; learning how to cook and do laundry aren't essentials if the youth doesn't have a place to live, and maybe prioritizing and funding needs to be reevaluated. Kral answered that the Independent Living Services that's funded by the Chafee Fund mandates they are not allowed to spend over 25%, which amounts to \$9,000 a year for Brown County. It was determined the estimated number of youths aging out (just the 18 year olds) in this county were a low number of 10 youth a year, and fluctuating anywhere up to 20 youth a year. Hopp calculated that fund and it only allowed an estimated \$36,000 a year for the entire program for what Shackelford estimated 80-90 youth served in a year. Kral added that it gets done with teamwork and collaboration, and Hopp followed that was "broke". Concerning housing again, Kral said the long waitlist wasn't a concern last year. Hopp expressed his concern that the current housing issue is going to be the first one to amend, and reiterated the concern about supporting 90 youths on a \$36,000 budget. Brennan assured that in his five years of experience, a youth has never gone homeless, funding can be tricky, but reaching out to partners and doing whatever necessary to help the child will be done. Evans gave gratitude to the group for pulling through on such a small budget, and then asked for clarifications about the *Transitional Living Program*. The program is ran/ administered through Family Services, and is not part of the Chafee Fund of \$36,000. They have three separate federal funding services, with a budget unknown at the moment, and this program primarily focuses on housing. *Transitional Living Services (TLS)* is the same as *Independent Living Services (ILS)*, the only differences are the name and *TLS* is for 18-21 year olds, and these two programs are under the Chafee Funding and Brown County Human Services department. Evans asked about the deciding factor for these youth who turn 18 regarding waitlist for housing. The group answered, although all youth are treated equal, if given an ultimatum, the youth that is more cooperative, more ready to take the advantage for the opportunity, and has a better history of follow through will likely receive the spot first.

Robinson reiterated Brennan's "no child goes homeless"... What happens if they land on that 2-3 waitlist? Brennan answered caseworkers are going to have to plan earlier, they can try to connect the youth with relatives that are willing to house for a short time, they can help with first or last month's rent, and help the youth find work. The program doesn't recommend the youth to resort to a homeless shelter. Brennan shared that there are plenty of apartment units available for rent, but under Family Services, the waitlist for housing is 2-3 years.

Motion made by Supervisor Haefs, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to suspend the rules to let interested parties speak. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Judy Summers; Address: 1243 S Irwin, Green Bay, WI. Summers is a foster parent to a youth who's been in the system almost all his life. She said the programs are good to start their life,

but the day-to-day duties (laundry, cooking, etc.) aren't going to teach these youth anything. At 15 ½ years old, the youth was told to go to Family Services for the Transitional Living Program which he completed. The youth is now 19 years old, he and his foster family had the assumption that he would have a place to live upon completing the program. Just three weeks ago they were told he would not have a place right away, but he'd been waiting over a year and a half. According to Summers, there were a number of reasons for the delay according to the caseworker. One reason shared was that she heard Brown County was affiliated with funding, but stopped funding. Summers expressed greatly how blind sided she and her foster child were, they didn't know anything about what was just discussed, and a lot of what she is hearing is new. She also shared that the boy has work orientation coming up, but he won't sustain right away. He was even recommended to go to the homeless shelter to possibly move up the list on housing assistance. Summers wanted to know what steps to take, and generally, what are they to do. Evans replied that likely, her answers will not be answered at the meeting, but what concerns him is the lack of information given between her and caseworkers. Evans concluded that caseworkers need to talk to foster parents more to close gaps in communication. He also apologized for Summers' frustration, and stated his confidence in the group to help her get answers.

At this time Evans thanked the group, Shackelford, Draxler, and Brennan for their presentation as they packed up and left. Evans asked if Summers had further questions. She said she would simply like some follow-through on what to do next.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to return to regular order of business. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor Haefs, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. EMR Hospital Redesign.

This item was struck by the committee.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Haefs to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Financial Report for Community Treatment Center and Community Programs.

(Discussed after item #7)

Finance Manager, Tim Schmitt reported the financial results for Community Programs from year-to-date to April are slightly ahead of budget for reported revenues. They are on budget for expenditures, surpluses of \$677,000 through April mostly due to prepaid program revenues being booked. They expect expenditures reported for these programs to catch up in the next reporting period. For the remainder of the year, it is expected to stay on budget with minor fluctuation and reported surpluses deficits throughout the year. Overall, Community Program is on budget.

Schmitt reported that the Community Treatment Center's (CTC) year-to-date through April showed a \$496,000 deficit due primarily to lower hospital revenues due to over census of the \$496,000 indeficent depreciation comprises of \$218,000 and does not affect levy needs which leaves an unfavorable levy impact of \$278,000. Hospital revenues are lower than budgeted due to lower census resulting from fewer detox clients being served, although nursing home is near capacity, their revenue is \$125,000 lower than budget due to fewer clients being served to pay privately. Overall, Human Services Department Budget is on budget year-to-date through April.

Robinson asked about the past Community Program surpluses having to cover the CTC deficit, and if they anticipate this to happen again. Schmitt said it is going to be close, they have experienced lower revenues with CTC, and have experienced some favorable variances in some of the expenditures. It's a little too early to tell, because they are basing it off the four months, but they are going to try their best to make sure Community Programs covers the deficit of CTC. Robinson found it ironic that Human Services Department has returned so much money to the general levy, Evans said it's not unusual to see, and Schmitt concluded that over the last years they've cut a lot of levy out of the Human Services department, now they're running close to the actual. Robinson recapped the funding for housing (agenda topic 4), a system being "broke", but cutting the levy back.

**Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to receive and place on file.
Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. Statistical Reports.

- a. **Monthly Inpatient Data – Community Treatment Center.**
Mary Johnson
- b. **Monthly Inpatient Data – Bellin Psychiatric Center.**
- c. **Child Protection – Child Abuse/Neglect Report.**
- d. **Monthly Contract Update.**

(Discussed after item #4)

Robinson asked about the stats for the Community Treatment Center, the Voluntary – Mental Illness being 6 times the number of last year if that was normal. Mary Johnson, from Community Treatment Center(CTC) answered that they give clients the option to sign in voluntarily, which is a change in practice that has worked very well, the patients respond to treatment just as well, or even better, because they are at their own will. If a patient wanted to leave, and the psychiatrist feels it is not the patients best interest, he/she will do what is called a "superintended hold", it keeps the patient there, but the hold seldomly been used. They want the patients civil rights in place, because Brown County had some of the highest emergency retentions in the state.

Robinson asked about the Nicolet average daily census down from 16 to 14. Johnson, answered there is more intervention from the Crisis Center. Kral shared that there are have two positions for the psychiatrist, but haven't been able to fill. They are looking to fill temporary help; because they cannot find psychiatrist with proper credentials and the competition is strong.

Robinson asked about the reports on child abuse by month. Down 3% compared to last year, and investigations are down by 8%. Hiring of new caseworkers, it would be assumed that investigations should go up. Hermans said they will be as thorough with investigation, respond

to all the reports, and the ones investigated have to meet the minimum state requirements. If they meet the criteria they will go on the report which isn't a steady number, usually around 30%.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Request for New Non-Continuous Vendor.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Request for New Vendor Contract.

Motion made by Supervisor Haefs, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to approve. Vote taken approve. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

10. Audit of bills.

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor Haefs to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Such other Matters as Authorized by Law.

Motion made by Supervisor Haefs, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Blaire Xiong
Recording Secretary

Brown County Human Services

Executive Director's Report to the Human Services Committee

June 26, 2013

Members of the Committee:

I would like to begin by updating you on the state budget and two of the major program areas addressed by it. First, with regard to adult behavioral health the budget has a provision which would relieve the county of the local share of services through the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program, provided that the counties are operating in a multi-county consortium for this program. This move at the state level obviously incentivizes counties to move in this direction and to expand utilization of the CCS program. Brown County Human Services is well-positioned to respond to this state action because we have an existing CCS program and have already begun discussions with neighboring counties about a multi-county effort.

The second of the two major programs which was addressed by the state budget is Family Care. The action taken by the legislature was to require the state Department of Health Services to bring a report to the Joint Finance Committee in mid-December 2013. This report will provide the committee with further information and analysis on Family Care. Based on this action by the legislature, we can expect to know more clearly the state's intentions for Family Care expansion either very late 2013 or early 2014.

In local updates, our electronic medical record project will soon be taking a major step forward, with treatment planning coming online. Credit for this goes to Mary Johnson, Patti Kissel, Mark Johnson, and Jed Berndt for accomplishing this major milestone.

The initial planning for the redesign of the Nicolet Psychiatric Center is nearly finished and will be put out for bids in early July. We have had great collaboration with Public Works department in moving this along. We expect to be bringing a low bid recommendation next month for the remodeling necessary to reduce the number of hospital beds and develop a Community Based Residential Facility (CBRF) at the Nicolet Psychiatric Center. This move will provide appropriate care for our patients first and foremost, filling a gap in our system of care for people with behavioral health conditions. Another advantage of this move is that freestanding psychiatric hospitals 16 beds or smaller are not classified as Institutions for Mental Disease (IMD) by the federal government. IMD's are prohibited from billing Medicaid, but psychiatric hospitals which are not IMD's may bill Medicaid for services. Access to that revenue stream will assist with making the hospital more sustainable and reduce the levy dependence.

We have begun an effort to more tightly integrate inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services. As part of a small restructuring, nurses who primarily handle medications in the clinic will report to the Director of Nursing in the hospital and both the inpatient social services unit and the outpatient clinic will report to the same upper manager. A common reporting structure creates a better environment for the involved personnel to enhance collaboration of the two areas. Growing coordination and integration here helps our efforts to have a unified, seamless continuum of care for all consumers accessing our behavioral health services.

Last but not least our Economic Support Unit has won yet another award for excellent performance. Our FY2012 Food Share payment accuracy rate was 100%. Only 2 other counties in the state reached that mark. This unit consistently delivers results that are spectacular and they deserve to be recognized yet again.

Respectfully Submitted By:


Jeremy Kral
Interim Executive Director

Independent Living Services

BROWN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

Independent Living Services (ILS) Eligibility

- Eligibility for ILS begins at age 15 ½
- Our Department begins planning for the youth well before their 18th birthday
 - Primary goal is still Reunification to a parent or relative Independent Living Program, Community Services Team, Administrative Review, Permanency Roundtables

Federal Funding

- John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act of 1999
 - Provides funding
 - Outlines program requirements

Primary Focus of Independent Living

- Teach the youth to become a good citizen
 - Restorative Justice
 - Interpersonal Skills through Independent Living
- Teach the youth Self Sufficiency
 - High School Diploma, HSED or GED
 - Gainful employment
 - Post-secondary education or training

Anticipated Need in 2013

- It is anticipated that in 2013 between 10-12 youth will be aging out of foster care or kinship placement
- The projected number of youth to be served between the ages of 18-21 is 45.
 - Does not include youth that refuse service
 - Incarcerated youth
 - Youth whose whereabouts are unknown/outdated contact information

Offered Services for Eligible Youth

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic Living Skills<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cooking Classes• Grocery Shopping• Laundry• Hygiene• Health/Medical• Interpersonal Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase knowledge of local resources• Job Seeking Assistance• Assistance in enrolling in secondary education/training• HealthCare• Financial Self Sufficiency• Assistance with housing |
|---|--|

Offered Services for Eligible Youth

- Transportation
- Assistance in Obtaining Personal Documents
 - State ID
 - Birth Certificate
 - Social Security Cards
- Credit Checks
- Mentoring
- Case Management

Community Response

- There is a community group that has started meeting to identify the services presently available to our youth
 - Next meeting is July 10, 2013 at Sophie Beaumont
- Present goals of the group are:
 - Services mapping
 - Identify gaps in service
 - Identify unmet needs
 - Develop programming and identify grant writing opportunities to meet those needs

Agency Wide Response

- There are a number of Departments within Brown County that have taken an active role in meeting the needs of our youth
 - Brown County Shelter Care
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Child Protection
 - Children and Adolescent Behavioral Health Unit (CABHU)
 - Foster Care
 - UW-Extension
 - Purchasing
 - Children's Waiver
 - Volunteer Services
 - Economic Support
 - Payee Services

Community Members

- Brown County Shelter Care
- Brown County Juvenile Justice
- Brown County Child Protection
- NEW Community Shelter
- CASA of Brown County
- American Foundation of Counseling (Foster Care)
- Advocates for Independent Living
- Family Services- Transitional Living Program
- Catholic Charities
- YWCA
- Volunteer Center of Green Bay

Community Response

- The Department recognizes that alone the needs of the youth transitioning cannot completely be met

Additional Work Group

- Volunteer Program
 - Volunteers that act as mentors for youth as they exit care and in to early adulthood
 - Shoe Story

13

Barriers

○

- **Unavallable Housing**
 Waitlists into transitional living programs are 2-3 years
- **Participation by Youth**
 Youth refuse participation despite encouragement
 Youth exit care prior to court order ending (runaways or leaving at 18 to squatting situations)
- **Unemployment**
- Youth are taken advantage of
- Criminal background of youth
- Lack of funding for needed services

14

Success

○

- **Success Story**

15

Questions?

○
